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THE IRIS

Dean Iris Gardens
Moneta, California.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE OF

THE DEAN IRIS GARDENS

GROWERS AND IMPORTERS OF

CHOICE IRIS



THE LARGEST COLLECTION OF IRIS WEST OF THE
ROCKY MOUNTAINS AND ONE OF THE LARGEST IN
THE UNITED STATES

LOCATION OF GARDENS: TWO BLOCKS NORTH OF BROADACRES
ON THE REDONDO BEACH CAR LINE VIA GARDENA

MONETA,

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

CALIFORNIA

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GENERAL INFORMATION

OCCASIONALLY we have had customers who at first have not been entirely successful in results, and by correspondence we have been enabled to assist in arriving at the cause. Please let us know if your plants do not give entire satisfaction, stating location, soil and treatment given. Cultural directions are sent with plants or bulbs ordered of us if requested.

The best time for planting the Bearded Irises is without doubt the month of August, although the following months are also a good time. They can be planted any month in the year with us, provided one is willing to disturb their plants when they are making flowering stems.

Of the other species, most of them do best planted in September and October, a very few doing better planted in the Spring, when new growth is about to begin. All of the *Oncocyclus* and *Regelia*, also the bulbous species, should be planted in the Fall of the year.

To any customers in colder climates than ours, we would say you need not hesitate to plant any of the varieties in the *Pogoniris* or *Apogon* Sections. Some of the others would require some protection during the severe winter weather if planted outside.

Additions to stock of new introductions are frequently made, also as stock of some varieties increase, quotations can be reduced, and thus for these and various other reasons, prices are not included in catalogue, but issued in separate list to admit of more frequent changes.

A copy of this catalogue is mailed free to all our customers—to others we make a charge of 15 cents. The color plate alone is well worth the price. Price list is furnished free; extra copies on application. Please preserve this catalogue for future reference. Copies of color plate at 10 cents each.

A valuable and instructive book on *IRISES* by Dykes, an English author, has recently been published. It is a well bound book, in board covers, of some 100 pages, and contains eight excellent full-page color plates. It contains much more information than can be embodied in a catalogue. If your bookseller cannot furnish it, we will send a copy for 85 cents, postpaid.

Our cuts do not represent the actual size of the flowers. *I. Susiana*, for example, is a very large flower, four to six times as large as represented.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—We exercise due care to keep all varieties TRUE to name, and hold ourselves in readiness at any time to replace, on proper proof, any stock that may prove otherwise; but it is mutually agreed between the purchaser and ourselves that we shall not at any time be liable for any amount greater than the original price of the stock. All sales made subject to stock being unsold when order is received, or loss by any and all unavoidable causes.

INTRODUCTION

OUR object in issuing a larger and more complete catalogue of our Irises this season than heretofore is an attempt to better acquaint more people on this Coast with this interesting genus of plants. That the interest in the Iris is growing was proven by the splendid amateur display at the Pasadena Flower Show this past Spring. We believe when people realize—not only what a great variety of color and form is found among the Irises, but that by making proper selection, they can have Irises practically all of the year—then they will receive the appreciation they deserve, and be among the most popular of flowers.

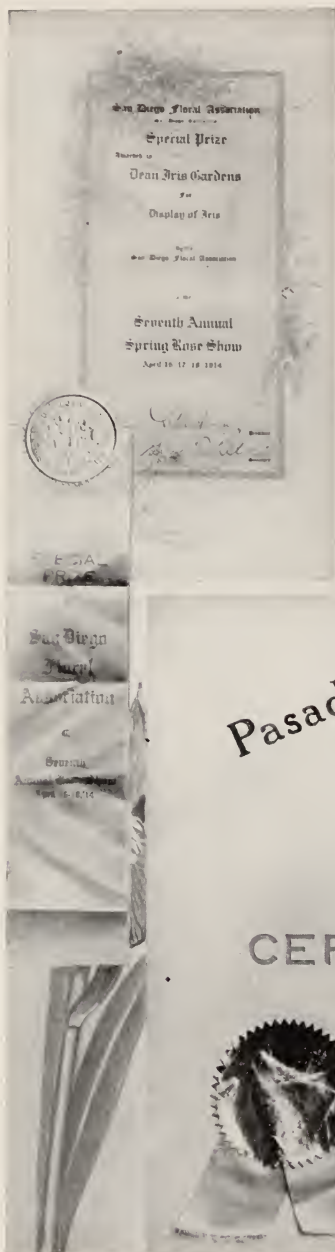
We have been cultivating the Iris for over twenty years, first becoming interested in them through a publication of B. A. Elliott Co., of Pittsburgh, published in 1892, and entitled, "A Few Flowers Worthy of General Culture." We were surprised to learn of such a variety as there was even at that time, and quite a number of the names listed are familiar, and several of the hybrids have not been much improved upon. There is a long list of Japanese Iris, something like twenty-five of the Germanica type, three or four *I. Sibirica*, and a few "miscellaneous." Prices on some were considerably higher than now, and yet for those days, not excessive.

Flowers that are worthy subjects of the brush of the artist and the pen of the poet are surely worthy of cultivation in any garden.

There are some 150 species, found in all parts of the North Temperate Zone, and there are few places perhaps as well adapted to the whole genus as in our favored climate of the Pacific Coast. While we have been cultivating the Iris for some twenty years, during the past five years we have devoted much time to the study of the whole genus, collecting and trying out different species and varieties. We believe with our experience, we are better prepared to advise what species and varieties to plant than those not familiar with our climate and conditions.

The florists tell us they cannot handle them as a cut flower, because they are so delicate, and cannot handle them in the bud because people will not buy what they cannot see in bloom, and they do not have time to educate the people, they say. If the stems are cut just as the first buds begin to open and are placed in water, the buds will all open, the flowers being broken off as they wither, others opening to take their place. In this way you have a bouquet for a week and perhaps longer.

Some time we hope the people will create a demand upon the florists for Irises. They have long been called "The Poor Man's Orchid"—if they but cost more to cultivate, and the price was excessive, no doubt the demand for them would come quickly. If we cannot have the beautiful hothouse Orchids, let us not despise the next best thing—the Iris.



WE believe we are justly proud of the cuts on this page. These awards given us for our Iris display, at the two largest Flower Shows in Southern California, in 1914, should be sufficient guarantee for all we claim for our stock.

Pasadena Horticultural Society



NINTH ANNUAL SPRING FLOWER SHOW

APRIL 9th, 10th, 11th, 1914

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

For Display of Iris
Awarded to Dean Iris Gardens - Moneta

By Pasadena Horticultural Society

Judges:

J. Dietrich
H. Fletcher
J. Taylor
C. K. Kuchuga
Wm. J. Currier

See testimonial article on page 21: "Irises in the Southwest" by J. J. Thornber, with reference to their adaptability to a dry climate. Prof. Thornber has been growing the Iris to some extent for several years in his position as botanist at the University of Tucson, and is therefore not a novice, but capable of giving correct information.





IRIS CATERINA. (Slightly reduced)

IRIS CATERINA

THE late Sir Michael Foster, of England, devoted many years to the study of the Iris, collecting from all parts of the world—wherever they are to be found—and also produced a large number of hybrids. Had he been trying to produce an Iris among his hybrids, particularly adapted to our climate, he could not have done better than when he gave us Caterina. It is a queen among Irises—beautiful for any climate.

We quote from two of the leading Iris growers of England regarding this Iris. "A lovely hybrid raised by the late Sir Michael Foster, from I. Cypriana and I. Pallida; the flowers are of great size and borne on long, stout branching stems, standards light clear blue, falls soft lilac-blue, delicately fragrant, 4½ feet. Award of Merit R.H.S."

"A very pretty hybrid, one of the very best of the late Sir Michael Foster's pets; a cross between Cypriana X Pallida, having large, conspicuous pale mauve flowers, with a brownish marking at base and a very conspicuous yellow beard. A.M., R.H.S."

The foliage being persistent throughout the year, the plant is ornamental at all times, with its broad leaves some two feet tall. The growth of the plant being checked a part of the year in colder climates, no doubt the blooming period is not as long as it is with us. It comes into bloom here about the first of April, and with proper care remains in bloom for two months and more. Our own stock, although divided last year, has not been without bloom for three months and is still making new flowering stems at this writing.

The flowers are borne on branching stems, some four feet tall; most of the stems produce from fifteen to twenty blossoms, often five flowers being open on a stem at a time. The flowers measure 5½ inches from top of standards to bottom of falls. The plants do not throw up a quantity of flowering stems simultaneously, as many Irises of this class do, but instead seem to court our attention and admiration, by modestly extending their blooming period over such a long season.

The color plate is a good representation of this beautiful Iris. We can confidently recommend it to those who have room for but a few plants and want something choice, and also that will give increased pleasure from year to year, as well as to those with more ample space, and who can perhaps afford to plant more liberally of it. Our stock is guaranteed true to name.

The price at which this Iris is held, both in Europe and by the growers in the Eastern States who list it, proves that its worth is appreciated. The grower from whom we secured our stock in England writes us that this plant is getting very scarce, and many forms are being sold, both in England and elsewhere, as Caterina. For this reason, and the fact that the stock does not multiply as rapidly as that of some of the more common bearded varieties, the price will not be much reduced for some time to come.

POGONIRIS SECTION

BEARDED IRISES

THIS section is a large one, and deservedly popular because of the wide range of color and the ease of culture. They are usually referred to as "German" Irises, although only a few of them come strictly under this name. They are also called bearded Irises, because the ridge on the outer segment or fall is covered with a beard or hairs. To the casual observer the form of all may appear the same, yet there is a wide difference to be found among them. In some, the falls spread horizontally, in others they droop, and in some varieties seem to hug the stem closely. In some the standards open back, showing the heart of the flower; while in most varieties they are upright, some only spreading apart slightly, others drawn closely together at the top. Sometimes the standards and falls are obicular, and sometimes elongated in shape. The inner segments, or styles, are not often described, but they are as pretty, and often much more delicate in coloring than either the standards or falls. The blooming period of the section varies. Those that bloom early in March and April bloom again usually in May and June. Others that bloom later may bloom again in the Fall. Some throw stray blooms occasionally out of season, while others never so much as show a bud after having made their usual annual display. Most of the dwarf varieties are very free bloomers. None so far as we have observed as yet bloom as freely as Crimson King. With a few plants of this variety one need scarcely ever be without Irises—at least in this climate.

For large grounds and country places, there is nothing better for massing, bordering driveways, or planting in the herbaceous border. For a gorgeous effect nothing in the genus can excel the taller growing pallidas. On a wide border, tall growing varieties can be planted in the background, medium height in front of them, graduating down to the dwarfer forms. For smaller gardens, where space is limited, it is better to select such varieties as will extend over as long a blooming period as possible, or select those of your favorite color. For best effect, where planting a quantity, we would not advise too great a variety. Where selection is left to us we select to cover as long a blooming period as possible and yet give variety in colors.

They should be planted so as to have good drainage. In the case of a single plant, a basin can be made around the plant, or in case of a line, a trench may be made, as in this way they can be given much more moisture without danger of injuring the rhizomes, and if desired can be kept growing most of the year.

In describing the Irises most catalogue makers describe the flowers by giving the color of the three upper petals called "standards" and abbreviated "S," and the three lower petals called "falls" and abbreviated "F." An Iris is difficult to describe, and sometimes the description of two distinct varieties are given with little or no difference, and yet there is a great difference in the two flowers. For all growers to make their own description would result in much confusion, so the same descriptions are usually followed by all.

GERMANICA GROUP

Amas (syn. *Macrantha*). A handsome giant flowered form from Asia Minor. S. rich blue; F. violet. 2 feet.

Argus. S. violet; F. purple.

Common Blue Flag Iris. S. blue; F. purple. 2 feet.

Crimson King. Rich claret-purple. 2 feet.

Fontarabie. S. violet-blue; F. rich violet-purple. 18 inches.

Kharput. S. violet; F. velvety violet-purple. Large and handsome. 30 inches.

Kochii. Rich claret-purple. 2½ feet.

Oriflamme. S. light blue; F. rich violet-purple. Immense flowers.

Purple King. Full purple. Very effective. 2 feet.

Siwas. S. violet-blue; F. violet-black. 30 inches.

Violet Queen. S. violet-blue; F. violet-black. 2 feet.

PALLIDA GROUP

There are some very choice varieties found in this group, with their delicate opaline colors. There are the lighter tints of blue, blue-lilac, lavender, rose-lilac, mauve and lavender-purple, as also the darker shades. Most of them have large flowers with tall flowering stems. The plants make a fine appearance with their tall, broad foliage. The flowers are very fragrant.

Albert Victor. S. soft blue; F. beautiful soft lavender. Very fine. 40 inches.

Assaurez. S. bright violet; F. crimson-purple. 26 inches.

Astarte. S. rosy lilac; F. claret-red. 2 feet.

Brionense. Pale violet. Free flowering. 2 feet.

Caprice. S. rosy-red; F. falls deeper rosy-red. Free flowering. 2 feet.

Celeste. Pale azure blue. 30 inches.

Garibaldi. Rosy pink. 2 feet.

Her Majesty. S. soft rose; F. deeper rose, heavily veined. Handsome.

Juniata. S. and F. clear blue. 42 inches.

Kathleen. A soft rose lilac.

Khediye. Beautiful soft lavender. 30 inches.

Leonidas. S. soft lavender-grey; F. rosy mauve. Beautiful and distinct. 40 inches.

Lohengrin. S. mauve; F. Chinese violet. Very handsome. 33 inches.

Madam Pacquette. Bright rosy claret. Very handsome. 30 inches.

Mandaliscae. Rich lavender-purple. Early and handsome. 3 feet.

Mt. Penn. S. lavender-rose; F. crimson lilac, deep orange beard. 30 inches.

Mrs. Alan Gray. S. light mauve; F. Chinese violet, shaded darker. Late flowering and very free. New.

Pallida Dalmatica (syn. *Princess Beatrice*). S. fine lavender; F. clear deep lavender. Extra fine. 40 inches.

Pallida Speciosa. S. dark lavender, shaded lighter; F. shaded light purple. 40 inches.



ORIFLAMME (GERMANICA)

Pallida Fol. Variegata. Soft blue. Foliage variegated gold and silver.

Queen of May. Soft rose-lilac. Very beautiful. 32 inches.

Racemosa. Sky blue, branching stems. 20 inches.

Rembrandt. Soft lilac-blue.

Rhoda. Delicate shade of clear blush pink and rosy mauve.

Riva. S. rosy purple; F. large, standing almost at right angles.

Rose Unique. Bright violet-rose. Early bloomer.

Standard Bearer. Rosy mauve. 38 inches.

Sybil. S. blush; F. bright rosy-red. Very pretty. 26 inches.

Tineae. S. soft lavender-blue; F. deeper shade. 40 inches.

Trautlieb. A uniform soft rose.

Windham. S. soft lavender-pink; F. heavily veined with a darker shade; very large flower.

VARIEGATA GROUP

Standards Are Various Shades of Yellow.

Ada. S. bright canary-yellow; F. white, reticulated madder-brown. 20 inches.

Apollon. F. crimson-madder. 32 inches.

Aurea. Rich chrome-yellow. 20 inches.

Chelles. F. bright red-purple, beautifully reticulated.
20 inches.

Chenedolle. F. white, reticulated maroon.

Darius. F. lilac, margined primrose. 20 inches.

Favorite. F. lilac, margined white. 2 feet.

Foster's Yellow. Clear creamy yellow.

Ganymede. F. white, reticulated maroon-black. 2 feet.

Gold Crest. F. yellow, reticulated bronze.

Gracchus. F. crimson, reticulated white. 18 inches.

Hector. F. velvety crimson-black. 30 inches.

Honorabilis. F. rich mahogany-brown. 18 inches.

India. F. dark crimson-brown.

Innocenza. S. and F. white. 2 feet.

Iris King. F. rich maroon, border yellow. Very fine.

Loreley. F. ultramarine-blue, bordered cream. Very distinct.

Magnet. F. purple, reticulated white.

Malvina. F. veined and tipped madder-brown.

Marenco. F. rich crimson-brown. 18 inches.

Marie Corelli. F. rose-purple, reticulated primrose. 2 feet.

Minor. F. bright lilac, margined yellow.

Miss Eardley. F. rich madder-red, bordered yellow.

Modeste Guerin. F. mauve. 28 inches.

Mrs. A. F. Barron. F. rose-violet, margined yellow. 18 inches.

Mrs. Neubronner. Deep golden yellow. Very fine. 18 inches.

Ossian. F. light claret-red. Showy. 2 feet.

Orphee. F. white, delicately traced crimson-brown.

Princess of Teck. F. deep purplish-rose. Distinct and handsome.

Princess Victoria Louise. F. deep violet-blue, with white edge.

Robert Burns. F. bright velvety maroon with golden margin. 20 inches.

Samson. F. crimson.

Sans Souci. F. yellow, elegantly reticulated crimson-brown.

Vondel. F. velvety maroon.

Walter Reuthe. F. rosy lilac, beard golden.

AMOENA GROUP

Standards Are White in This Group.

Comte de St. Clair. F. violet, margined white. 20 inches.

Donna Maria. F. white, tinged lilac. 2 feet.

Duc de Nemours. F. violet, edged and reticulated white. 2 feet.

Elegans. Standards sometimes splashed with violet; F. violet, veined white.

Glorietta. F. white, heavily traced purple. 14 inches.

Mrs. H. Darwin. F. white, reticulated violet at base.

Penelope. F. white, delicately veined violet.

Poiteau. S. white tinged lavender; F. dark maroon-purple, reticulated white.

Reticulata Alba. F. violet, edged and reticulated white.

Rhein Nixe. F. mauve, edged and reticulated white. Very distinct and beautiful.

Thorbeck. F. rich clear violet-purple, reticulated white at base.

Victorine. F. violet-blue, mottled white.

Wyomissing. S. creamy white; F. deep rose at the base, shading to a flesh colored border.



LORELEY (VARIEGATA)

NEGLECTA GROUP

The Standards in This Group Range from
Lavender to Purple.

Albatross. S. white, shaded the palest of blues; F. white, veined and tipped rich purple.

Atrocoerulea. S. pale blue; F. violet-blue. 30 inches.

Black Prince. S. intense deep violet-blue; F. velvety purple, edged lighter. Very beautiful. Stock rare.



HANNIBAL (NEGLECTA)

Clarissima. S. lavender; F. reticulated purple, on white ground. 2 feet.

Cordelia. S. rosy lilac; F. dark velvety crimson, edged rose. Beautiful. 2 feet.

Cythere. S. fine lavender-blue; F. rich blue. 2 feet.

Frederick. S. pale lavender; F. lavender, barred with brown.

Hannibal. S. lavender; F. dark purple. 2 feet.

Laura. S. lavender, shaded white; F. rich velvety purple. 30 inches.

Lavater. S. lavender, veined purple; F. white, traced and tipped violet.

Mons. de Sible. S. lilac; F. deep crimson-purple. 30 inches.

Monsignor. S. rich satiny violet; F. velvety purple-crimson, with lighter veining and margin. Handsome.

Osis. S. lilac; F. violet-purple. 20 inches.

Othello (syn. Sappho). S. rich blue; F. very dark velvety purple. Rich and handsome. 30 inches.

Perfection. S. light blue; F. dark velvety violet-black. Very handsome.

Radiance. S. silvery mauve; F. rich velvety purple, reticulated white at claw. Very fine.

Sympathy. S. silvery lavender; F. violet. Handsome. 30 inches.

Teresita. S. lavender, flushed lilac; F. crimson-purple. 28 inches.

Wagner. S. lavender; F. lavender, edged violet. 18 inches.

Willie Barr. S. French grey; F. white, freely traced violet. 20 inches.

PLICATA GROUP

The Flowers Have a Beautiful Colored Frill-like Margin on a White Ground.

Agnes. S. white, frilled and shaded lilac; F. white, traced lilac at base. 2 feet.

Bariensis. Delicately edged and dotted pale lilac-rose.

Bridesmaid. S. white, shaded silvery lilac; F. white, reticulated at base, and slightly frilled soft lilac. 2 feet.

Delicatissima (syn. Gazelle). White, heavily frilled lilac. 2 feet.

Elizabeth. S. white, heavily shaded lilac; F. white, shaded violet at margin.

Fairy. White, delicately bordered and suffused soft blue. Very beautiful. 30 inches.

Madam Chereau. White, elegantly frilled with a wide border of clear blue. 30 inches. One of the best of the group.

Maritana. S. and F. white, finely frilled rose-lilac. Very pretty. 2 feet.

Mrs. Reuthe. S. white, shaded and veined blue-grey; F. white, frilled soft blue. Large and handsome.

Ophelia. S. white, heavily frilled and shaded blue; F. white, frilled soft blue, large flower.

Swertii. White, frilled blue, petaloid stigmas lilac. 30 inches.

SQALENS GROUP

The Standards Are Clouded Shades of Copper, Bronze and Fawn.

Abdul Aziz. S. clouded gold and lilac; F. rich violet-purple, reticulated white. 15 inches.

A. F. Barron. S. dark bronze; F. white, veined and tipped crimson-brown.

Arnols. S. rosy bronze; F. rich velvety purple. Handsome. 30 inches.

Bariensis Elizabeth. S. iridescent yellow; F. white, shading to blue, veined brown.

Bronze Beauty. S. clouded yellow; F. ruby-lavender. 2 feet.

Dalmarius. S. satiny grey; F. lilac with silver sheen, deeper at claw, beard rich orange. Distinct and handsome. 30 inches.

Dr. Bernice. S. coppery-bronze; F. velvety crimson. 2 feet.

Eleon. S. old-gold, flushed and spotted purple-bronze; F. dark maroon, reticulated white.

Exquisite. S. clouded yellow; F. rose-lilac. 2 feet.

Gypsy Queen (syn. *La Prestigieuse*). S. old-gold, shaded smoked pearl; F. black maroon, reticulated light yellow. 30 inches.

Harrison Weir. S. yellow bronze; F. velvety crimson. 20 inches.

Jacquesiana. S. bright coppery crimson; F. rich maroon. Handsome. 30 inches.

Lady Jane. S. coppery rose; F. madder-red, reticulated white. 2 feet.

Lady Seymour. S. lavender, flushed sulphur; F. netted violet and white.

Lord Grey. Clouded rose-fawn. 2 feet.

Lucretia. S. pale primrose; F. shading to silver, with orange beard. 2 feet.

Mme. Blanche Pion. S. soft bronzy-yellow; F. standing at right angles, lavender-blue, with a silver shaded margin.

Monsieur Chereau. S. rich bronze-gold; F. crimson-maroon. Handsome. 20 inches.

Mrs. Arthur Dugdale. S. rich old-gold, flushed bronze; F. rich claret, veined white. New and attractive.

Miralba. S. bronze-fawn; F. purple-fawn, netted white. 30 inches.

Nibelungen. S. fawn-yellow; F. violet purple with fawn margin. Very handsome. 30 inches.

Pfauenauge. S. light fawn-yellow; F. ruby-purple, with conspicuous yellow margin. Handsome. 20 inches.

Prosper Laugier. S. light bronze-red; F. velvety ruby-purple with orange beard. Very handsome. 30 inches.

Queen Alexandra. S. fawn, shot with lilac; F. lilac, reticulated at base with bronze, beard yellow. Beautiful and distinct. 2 feet.

Salar Jung. S. gold-bronze; F. tipped and reticulated maroon-black on white ground. 2 feet.

Sir Walter Scott. S. bronze-yellow; F. rich crimson-brown. 2 feet.

The President. S. light copper, flaked bronze-purple; F. velvety maroon. 30 inches.

Walneriana. S. lavender, flushed bronze; F. pale violet. 30 inches.



ARNOLS (SQALEN)

BEARDED IRISES—VARIOUS SPECIES

Most of the Irises listed here have large flowers and some are very tall. The flowers are distinct from the Germanica section.

Albicans, Princess of Wales. Beautiful pure white.

Benacensis. S. violet; F. deep rich purple.



FLORENTINA (TALL BEARDED)

Biliotti. S. blue-purple; F. reddish-purple. 26 inches.

Carthusian. New handsome hybrid. S. clear lavender-blue; F. darker blue, reticulated brown at claw. Flowers large and fragrant. 2 feet.

Caterina. One of the late Sir Michael Foster's hybrids. S. clear light blue; F. soft lilac-blue, deliciously fragrant. 4 feet.
(See color plate and further description page 5.)

Ciengialti. S. lavender-blue; F. soft violet-blue.

Flavescens. A delicate shade of soft yellow.

Flavescens Munite. S. chamois yellow; F. primrose, reticulated lavender.

Florentina. Creamy white, faintly flushed lavender. Very fragrant.

Florentina, Silver King. Purer white than above.

Florentina, Queen Emma. Pure white, faintly flushed blue. Handsome.

Lurida (var. *Redouteana*). Mahogany-red. Very distinct and rare. 18 inches.

Mesopotamica. S. soft blue; F. violet-purple. A new species from the East, of exceptionally strong growth, and producing massive flowers on stems 4 to 5 feet tall. The foliage with us does not die down in the winter, and last season it came into bloom about the middle of March. A most magnificent Iris. It seems unfortunate that this Iris is going out under the catalogue name of *I. Junonia*. According to the description of *I. Junonia*, in the Genus *Iris*, by Mr. Dykes, it is quite distinct from this, although the true *Junonia* is a very fine Iris.

Sambucina. S. coppery-rose; F. rosy-purple. 2 feet.

Sambucina Beethoven (syn. *Miss Brough*). S. rose-lilac; F. purple with orange beard. 2 feet.

Sambucina, La Vesuve. S. lavender, flushed bronze; F. violet. 2 feet.

Sambucina, Mephistopheles. S. clouded lavender; F. rich purple, flushed blue.

Trojana (syn. *I. Cypriana* of Commerce). These fine Irises are produced on branching stems 3 to 4 feet tall. The flowers are large and very fragrant, and they bloom in June. This is the species described and illustrated in *The Genus Iris* (Dykes) as *I. Trojana*. The true *I. Cypriana*, also described by him, is not in commerce.

Trojana Celestial. A handsome blue-flowered form.

Trojana Magnifica. S. violet-blue; F. violet purple.

Trojana Superba. S. soft blue; F. rich, clear violet. Very fine.

INTERMEDIATE IRISES

These hybrids are crosses between Dwarf and Tall Bearded Irises. They are medium in height, flowers large, some unusually so, and free bloomers, blooming at intervals throughout the year like most of the dwarf varieties. They increase rapidly and need to be divided every three years at most.

Charmant. S. silvery blue; F. pearl-blue, with deeper blue markings, beard orange. 20 inches.



INTERMEDIATE IRISES

Freya. Pearl color; F. flamed violet.

Fritjof. S. soft lavender; F. soft purple, shaded lavender. Large flower and one of the most beautiful in the set.

Halfdan. Creamy white.

Helge. S. lemon yellow; F. deeper, orange beard. 2 feet.

Ingeborg. White. Very large flower.

Ivorine. Ivory-white with gold markings at base of petals, beard orange.

King Christian. Large sulphur white, with yellow markings at base of petals. Handsome.

Niphetos. S. white; F. silvery-white, beard yellow, large flower. 20 inches.

Walhalla. S. lavender-blue; F. violet-purple, paler toward edge. Very showy. 2 feet.

DWARF BEARDED IRISES

These lovely Dwarf Irises do not seem to be appreciated on this Coast as yet. They do well with comparatively little moisture, and are suitable for edging borders, or beds of other plants; useful for the rockery, also for filling in bare spaces in the border where a low growing covering is desired. An excellent feature is that most varieties are evergreen, and bloom very freely. The flowers are as large as many of the taller growing varieties. They vary in height from 4 inches to a foot, depending partly upon the amount of moisture.

We can furnish the Balceng hybrids, among the tallest growing. They come in white, flaked blue, purple and sea-green; and primrose, suffused green. Some curious and unusual markings. We can furnish several shades of violet-blue, deep blue, etc. Orange Queen, a beautiful clear yellow, has proved very satisfactory. Another handsome yellow is Reichenbachiana, not so common as Orange Queen. For white, The Bride is an excellent one.

A very satisfactory and free flowering variety is Lutescens Statellae, pale primrose in color.



EVANSIA SECTION

This small group of rhizomatus Irises are called "Crested Irises," for in place of the beard on the falls there is a crest.

Japonica (fimbriata) is probably better known in this locality than any of the others. It has pretty blue flowers with golden crest. It requires a rich, moist soil and partial shade. It has beautiful evergreen foliage, and blooms early.

Tectorum. One of the most beautiful in this section. To bloom well it needs to be divided often, and as the foliage is so thin, should have some protection from the sun, otherwise the plants become unsightly. An abundance of water in flowering time is

necessary. Like the others in this group that we have cultivated, with the exception of *Japonica*, the foliage dies down in the winter.

Tectorum Alba. A beautiful white flowered form of above.

Milesi. Purplish-lilac flowers. The tallest of the group.

There are several smaller forms, including our native *I. Cristata*. They are very pretty and interesting, but we would not recommend them except to those making large collections, as others will give greater satisfaction where one can have but a few.

APOGON SECTION

BEARDLESS IRISES

THIS is a very interesting section, and contains some very beautiful species and varieties. Some of these are as easy of culture as those in the bearded section, while some require more moisture and different treatment. Many are excellent for planting around lily ponds, in tubs, etc., particularly the taller growing varieties. Anywhere where the roots receive plenty of moisture during the growing and blooming period. Like nearly all of the genus, when the plants are established they can be allowed to dry out for a time during the summer months—in fact, most of them are the better for it—which is an excellent feature, as it is a time when our gardening enthusiasm wanes. Some in this section do remarkably well with no more moisture than our bearded Irises receive.

Mr. Dykes, in his recent monograph of *The Genus Iris*, divides this section into fifteen groups, and we have followed his grouping, omitting such as are not in cultivation.

SIBIRICA GROUP

These require a rich, moist soil, and preferably partial shade.

Bulleyana. Also another new introduction from China. Pale blue.

I. Bulleyana and **I. Forrestii** produce flowering stems a foot to fifteen inches long, the others two feet and more, and **I. Delavayi** the tallest of all—over four feet.

Chrysographes. Another recent introduction from China. Purple.

Delavayi. A handsome blue-violet, blotched with white.

Forrestii. A recent introduction from China. Yellow.

Sibirica Alba. White. Distinct from above.

Sibirica Blue King. Very choice. Beautiful blue.

Sibirica Orientalis. Very beautiful. Violet.

Sibirica Snow Queen. Lovely pure white with yellow blotch.

Wilsonii. New introduction from China. Pale yellow.

CALIFORNIA GROUP

Contained in this group are **I. Douglasiana**, **I. Tenuis**, **I. Tenax**, **I. Bracteata**, **I. Purdyi**, **I. Macrosiphon**, **I. Hartwegii** and others. They are natives of California, two or three

extending north into Oregon and Washington. Some have very short stems, although many produce stems twelve to fifteen inches long when established and properly cared for. In most of these the color varies from cream to pale yellow through lavender, lilac, purple, etc. They are most delicate and beautiful, but unfortunately difficult to establish. We hope to work up stock so they can be handled in a satisfactory manner to our customers, as it is disappointing to buy plants only to lose them.

UNGUICULARIS GROUP

These usually appear in catalogues under the name **I. Stylosa**. They are most valuable for this Coast climate. The long grassy foliage is evergreen and resembles that of many of our California group. They would be a pretty Iris for any season, but blooming as they do for such a long time in the fall and winter months when flowers are not so abundant makes them doubly valuable. There are several varieties of lilac and blue, also white. They are known as:

Stylosa. Lilac blue.

Stylosa Alba. A white form.

Stylosa Marginata. Lilac-blue, falls margined white.

Stylosa Speciosa. Lilac-purple.

They all grow about a foot high and the flowers have a delightful odor.

SPURIA GROUP

The flowers of this group resemble in form the Spanish Irises, but the plants themselves are much more ornamental with their tall, dark green, rush-like foliage. They consist of such varieties as:

Aurea. Handsome yellow; native of Himalayan Mountains. 3 feet.

Monaura. Large yellow flowers, with deep orange lip. 5 feet.

Monneiri. Handsome yellow species. 3 feet.

Monspur. Beautiful violet-blue. 4 feet.

Orientalis Gigantea (Syn. *Ochroleuca*). Called the Gold-Banded Iris. White, with orange-yellow blotch on falls. 4 feet.

Orientalis Sulphurea. Sulphur yellow form of above.

Orientalis Snowflake. White with gold blotch on falls. Free bloomer.

Spuria. Bright lilac-blue. 3 feet.

Spuria Notha. Rich violet; F. blue, spotted yellow. 3 feet.

LAEVIGATA GROUP

This group comprises *Laevigata* and *Kaempferi*, and the hybrids known as Japanese Irises, which are numerous and varied. The reason so many fail in the culture of these in Southern California is probably due to not giving sufficient moisture and proper nourishment. They require both to attain the greatest perfection.

PSEUDO-ACORUS and VERSICOLOR

The *Pseudo-Acorus* of Europe, and *Versicolor* of the United States, are water loving species, yet do well given the same treatment as given *I. Sibirica* and some others in this section.

Pseudo-Acorus. A bright yellow. 3 feet.

Versicolor. Varies in color from mauve, violet, purple to claret-red. 2 feet.

HEXAGONA GROUP

These are American species. *Hexagona*, *Foliosa* and *Fulva*. The colors in *Hexagona* and *Foliosa* vary, but that most common is lilac blue. *Foliosa* is the dwarfer form, the flowers nestling down among the leaves. In *Fulva* we have an unusual color in an Iris—an intermediate shade between a scarlet and brown. A handsome Iris and one that does well with us. 20 inches.

LONGIPETALA GROUP

These are natives of the Pacific Coast and neighboring states. They are distinct from those in the California group.

Longipetala. Violet-blue; falls white with lilac veining. 2 feet.

Missouriensis. Lilac with yellow spot. 2 feet.

Montana. Lilac with yellow in falls.

There are a few other groups in this section, but the ones described comprise those most common in cultivation.



MONSPUR (TALL BEARDESS)

FOETIDISSIMA

Iris Foetidissima. The scarlet-seeded Iris is placed in a group by itself. If the flowers were more attractive it would be very desirable owing to the fine evergreen foliage. The open capsules displaying the scarlet seeds throughout the winter make it attractive in some climates, but in our dry atmosphere the capsules shrivel up and the seeds soon fall after ripening.

Some less familiar Irises

FOLLOWING are some Irises not so familiar as the preceding, with the exception of the Spanish Iris, which does so well in the open with us, and is handled by the seed stores in large quantities every year. They also handle Iris Susiana, so that quite a few are also familiar with this Iris, which belongs to the Oncocyclus group. All of these should be planted in the autumn, and with the exception of the English Iris, it is well to plant where they can be ripened and moisture withheld during the summer months. For those who have had no experience with them we would suggest a small collection of mixed varieties. It is best to plant where they can be left undisturbed for two or three years. The Junos particularly do better if not disturbed too often, as the large fleshy roots are apt to be broken in lifting.

There are the bulbous Irises like the Spanish Iris, with fibrous roots; the Juno Irises which are also bulbous but have thick, fleshy roots. The Oncocyclus and Regelia group have rhizomes, also a group of hybrids called Regelio-cyclus. These latter are a cross between the Oncocyclus and Regelia, which it took years to produce. They are longer lived than the Oncocyclus, which often die out without any apparent cause. Many of them are so cheap, however, that one can afford to grow a few each season for the pleasure to be derived from them.

BULBOUS GROUP

Alata (Juno). One of the choicest of this group. They have large blue flowers with golden stripe on the falls. They improve as they become established. Splendidly adapted to our climate. Blooming period, November, December and January.

Bucharica. A splendid Juno of recent introduction, and one of the taller in this group. Flowers white and yellow.

Orchioides. A deep yellow Juno. Blooms in March. Has proved very satisfactory with us.

English Iris (l. Xiphioides). These require a rich, moist soil, and when well grown are most beautiful. They are offered in a variety of colors.

Spanish Iris (l. Xiphium). These are so well known they need no description here. There is a great variety to select from.

Filifolia (Xiphium Praecox). An early flowering form with bright blue flowers, fall-marked with yellow blotch.

Lusitanica. An excellent early flowering form in yellow and white.



SPANISH (XIPHUM)

Juncea. Late flowering, deep yellow. The most graceful of the Xiphium. The bulbs are rather short lived, which probably accounts for the higher price.

Tingitana. The choicest of the group. Falls light blue with central line of gold; standards in varying shades of purple. Large flower with long stem. We have had them in bloom in February, although last year, owing to dry autumn, they did not bloom until March. If nights are cool and frosty, they should be protected, otherwise they are liable to be checked in the bud and not bloom. We understand *Filifolia* is sometimes sold for this. If one has seen the true *Tingitana*, there is no mistaking it for *Filifolia*.

RETICULATA

These are pretty winter flowering dwarf varieties.

Histrio. Light blue.

Histrioides. A larger flowering variety, also blue.

Reticulata. Violet color with gold blotch.

The following are not Irises, but are usually listed with them for convenience:

Pavonia (*Moraea Glaucopis*). This is sometimes called the Peacock Iris. White with blue spot.

Tuberosa (*Hermodactylus*). Called the Snake's Head or Widow's Iris; flowers green and purple-black. Curious and pretty despite the name.

Oncocyclus and Regelia Section



WE would advise all who are fond of Irises to try a few of these. If you have never seen any of them in bloom they will prove of unusual interest. When ours bloomed for the first time we visited them several times a day—and do still if we can find the time. They are so weird and fascinating. Not so beautiful, perhaps, as many others—but you must see them to appreciate them.

Atrofusca. Rich deep brown, falls nearly black.

Atropurpurea. Black-purple.

Bismarckiana (*Sari Nazarena*). White or straw colored ground with purplish and black veins.

Gatesi. Silvery white, veined purple. Very large flower. Expensive and rare.

Hauranensis. Grey, violet and black.

Iberica. White and dark brown.

Korolkowi. (*Regelia*). White, veined brown.

Korolkowi Concolor Atropurpurea. Purple-red.

Korolkowi Concolor. Purple-violet.

Korolkowi Leichtliniana. White with black blotch.

Korolkowi Violaacea. White, flushed lilac, purple veined.

Lorteti. White, veined blue or violet. Very beautiful and rare, therefore expensive.

Mariae. Lilac, veined reddish brown.

Sari. Brown, yellow and sea-green.

Suwarowi (*Regelia*). Brown, blue and yellow. (See cut, page 19.)

Susiana (*The Mourning Iris*). Very large flower, veined brown-black.



SUSIANA (ONCOCYCLUS)

Regelio-Cyclus Irises

There are something like twenty varieties of these hybrids listed. In form and color they resemble both parents. Some of these we have grown for some time, and found very satisfactory, and we can recommend them. Prices have been considerably reduced this season, so they are now within the reach of all.



SUWAROWI (REGELIA)

We give description of a few of these.

Beatrix. Dark violet, feathered and blotched on soft pearly grey grounds.

Charon. F. C. Certificate, London. One of the most artistic combinations of color; on a bronzy mahogany underground the flowers are beautifully veined with old-gold and brown. A very choice variety.

Eucharis. Silvery grey, brown veined, large central brown blotch.

Eurydice. Dark lilac-rose. Extra.

Eva. Blue veined in white, silvery grey ground.

Flora. Very free flowering, flowers rose with yellowish brown.

Hecate. Lilac-rose, falls brown veined on grey ground.

Hera. Very robust growing variety; standards and falls rich ruby red with bronze and blue hues.

Hesperia. Standards lilac-rosy, falls silvery grey, brown feathered.

Irene. Award of Merit, London. A very chaste flower of a silvery white with chocolate brown veins; very dark central blotch.

Isis. Award of Merit, London. Large flowered, very strong growing variety; color, rich ruby-red with grey and purple veinings. Early flowering.

Ismene. Satiny white, heavily veined with violet.

Jocaste. Standards white, tinged rose; falls silvery white, veined brown-violet.

Luna. Soft violet-blue with deeper colored veins. Extra large and nobly formed flowers.

Mars. Dark violet-blue veined on a pale blue ground, black central blotch.

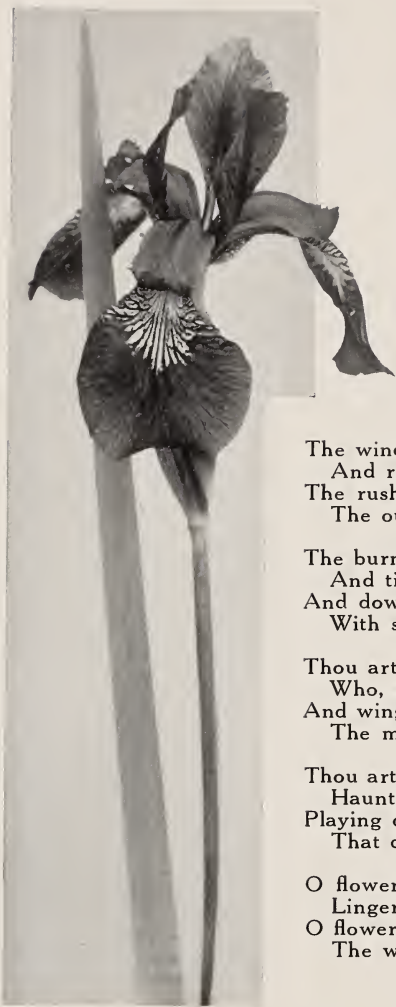
Persephone. Award of Merit, London. Extra large flowered, purple-blue feathered on grey ground.

Psyche. Satiny white, veined purple violet, falls with a black-brown blotch.

Thetis. Brown and old-gold on yellowish ground.

There are also a number of hybrids produced by Foster, crosses between the *Oncocylus* with some of the *Pogoniris*. These are interesting, particularly to the Iris enthusiast, and no doubt all will do well with us. We did not secure any stock of these until last season, but all are living and doing very well. They, of course, will not increase as rapidly as the *Pogoniris*. They are mostly hybrids between *Iberica* and *Paradoxa* of the *Oncocylus*, and *Pallida*, *Sambucina*, *Variegata* and *Ciengialti* of the *Pogoniris*. The colors of such as we have seen are more somber than those of the *Germanica* type, resembling the *Oncocylus* in this respect, and many of them are described as having a large black blotch in place of the beard.

It would be almost impossible for any one Iris specialist to offer every known variety of Iris, as many new hybrids are being produced every year, not only in Holland, England, Germany, Italy, and France, but also some very choice ones have been produced in this country, and we believe California will not be behind other countries in doing her share in helping on the good work.



FLOWER-DE-LUCE

Beautiful lily, dwelling by still rivers,
Or solitary mere,
Or where the sluggish meadow-brook delivers
Its waters to the weir!

Thou laughest at the mill, the whir and worry
Of spindle and of loom,
And the great wheel that toils amid the hurry
And the rushing of the flume.

Born in the purple, born to joy and pleasance,
Thou dost not toil nor spin,
But makest glad and radiant with thy presence
The meadow and the lin.

The wind blows, and uplifts thy drooping banner,
And round thee throng and run
The rushes, the green yeomen of thy manor,
The outlaws of the sun.

The burnished dragon-fly is thine attendant,
And tilts against the field,
And down the listed sunbeam rides resplendent
With steel-blue mail and shield.

Thou art the Iris, fair among the fairest,
Who, armed with golden rod
And winged with the celestial azure, bearest
The message of some God.

Thou art the muse, who far from crowded cities
Hauntest the sylvan streams,
Playing on pipes of reed and artless ditties,
That come to us as dreams.

O flower-de-luce, bloom on, and let the river
Linger to kiss thy feet!

O flower of song, bloom on, and make forever
The world more fair and sweet.

— Henry W. Longfellow.

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
TUCSON, ARIZONA

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

J. J. THORNBUR
J. G. BROWN

August 11, 1914.

IRISES IN THE SOUTHWEST

The Iris or flag, *Fleur de lis* of the French, is among the oldest of our cultivated flowers; its name signifying "rainbow" was given to it by the Greeks. The Iris is related botanically to Orchids on one side and to the *Amaryllis* and *Lilies* on the other. It is a favorite flower with the Japanese.

Irises constitute one of our largest groups of hardy perennial flowers; there are in cultivation now more than 100 species, with varieties almost too numerous to mention. When once established, an Iris bed should not be disturbed any more than is necessary, since ordinarily the plants do not blossom well the first year after being set.

Because of their general hardiness, and especially the drought resistant qualities of a large number of them, particularly the German Irises, they are admirably adapted for planting in southwestern gardens. There are few flowers that are as uniformly successful in Arizona, with our wide range of growing conditions, as the Iris. They can endure some alkali, strong light, thrive in heavy or light soils, grow with much or little irrigation and endure prolonged drought and heat. With their surface growing rhizomes they can even tolerate poor drainage. To be moderately successful, they require only the most ordinary culture. On account of the ease and success with which they grow, they should find a place in every garden. It is interesting to know that a number of rare Irises from Palestine and Syria which are grown with difficulty in the Eastern states, blossom and come to perfection in the mild climates of Arizona and California.

The writer knows of plants that have grown for several years on dry Arizona mesas with only the scant rainfall and the occasional flood water that collected in the basins surrounding them. In the heavy red clay soil in the cemetery of one of our larger Arizona mining towns, Irises are much planted and succeed beyond expectation. When established there, they grow and blossom year after year with little care, and they have come to be known to the children as "Easter Lilies." I know of no other flower that would thrive so well under the same trying conditions.

Irises are used to advantage in many kinds of planting, including massing, setting along borders of walks and drives, and also for naturalizing in back yards, in woods and along brooks. With their showy flowers and strict habit of growth, they are excellent for formal bedding and they lend themselves well to artistic effects. In addition to Irises heretofore mentioned should be noted the several dwarf Irises which are splendid for low borders, and the Spanish and English Irises, the two latter bulbous species indigenous to Spain.

It is only within the last few years that Irises have begun to receive the attention from florists they merit. The large number of varieties, their artistic qualities and their wide range of color insure for them a permanent place in our gardens as well as in the heart of the amateur gardener. After several years' experience growing small lots of Irises shipped from various sections of our country, those grown in California and the Southwest have been found to be larger plants and to do better than those from the Eastern states. This is not surprising, however, since it is the rule with most other plants, and whenever possible locally grown plants should be purchased. On this account, the writer recommends with pleasure Iris plants grown by the Dean Iris Gardens as being healthy plants that are most certain to succeed under our trying Arizona conditions.

J. J. THORNBUR.

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